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25X1COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]TOPIC Military Information from Rathenow

25X1X	EVALUATION	[REDACTED]	PLACE OBTAINED	[REDACTED]	25X1C
25X1C	DATE OF CONTENT	[REDACTED]			
25X1C	DATE OBTAINED	[REDACTED]	DATE PREPARED	26 February 1953	
REFERENCES					
PAGES <u>3</u> ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)					
REMARKS					
[REDACTED]					
[REDACTED]					
[REDACTED]					

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1. On 24 January 1953, the Kraftfahrer Kaserne on Semliner Strasse, Rathenow, was occupied by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. From 12 to 24 January, driving school training and maintenance work in the workshops was observed. Small groups of soldiers received instruction on commander's telescopes, aiming circles and compasses, or practiced throwing of hand grenades and field wire laying in the vicinity of the installation. [REDACTED]

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2. On 24 January, the Pionier Kaserne on Rudolf Breitscheid Strasse was occupied by about 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. From 12 to 24 January, about 15 x 122-mm field howitzers and about 14 x 120-mm mortars were seen in open sheds. Instruction on the 122-mm howitzers, including aiming practice in the terrain, was observed. Source had the impression that training activities were performed rather laxly. All troops observed were trained soldiers. No recruits arrived after the troops returned from the summer training. Small arms firing was observed at the firing ranges in Semlin Heath. An open wooden shed containing 35 boxes was being constructed in the northeast corner of the installation. The shed was about 60 meters long and 3.5 to 4 meters high. [REDACTED]

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3. On 24 January, the Infanterie Kaserne on Nordbahnhof (railroad station) was occupied by about 700 to 750 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. From 12 to 24 January, training with the 120-mm mortars, which were sheltered in the Pionier Kaserne, was observed. No sheds or garages for the sheltering of heavy weapons were available in the Infanterie Kaserne.
4. From 12 to 24 January, the former officers' billets between Infanterie Kaserne and Pionier Kaserne were occupied by officers and uniformed women. Source estimated the number of officers and uniformed women stationed at Rathenow at 500 to 600.
5. On 8 January, a staff conference was held in the headquarters building of the Ziethen Kaserne on Bahnhof Strasse. The conference began at 9:30 a.m. and ended at 4 p.m.; was presided by General Shamarov (phonetic spelling) (fnu), and

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6. From 20 to 28 January, the Infanterie Kaserne was occupied to capacity by about 2,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The barracks buildings were fully lighted after nightfall. About 300 troops who source believed were recruits were seen marching in the barracks yard. Beginning 10 January, 10 to 15 trucks, occupied by 2 to 4 soldiers each, were almost daily seen leaving the installation. Source expressed the belief that these vehicles were driving school trucks.

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7. From 20 to 28 January, the Pionier Kaserne was occupied to capacity by about 2,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The barracks buildings were fully lighted at dusk. On 22 January, 9 trucks, including 3 occupied by 30 soldiers each, and towing guns entered the installation. At about 4:15 p.m., source determined the guns in front of the vehicle shed.

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9. On 24 January, about 200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia drilled in the yard of the Infanterie Kaserne.

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10. On 31 January, numerous soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia engaged in service of the piece drill on eight 122-mm guns in the Pionier Kaserne.

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12. On 31 December, a clothing account of a transferred soldier, dated 9 November 1952, and signed by Major Zaika (fnu), commanding officer of Unit Kh was found near the Kraftfahrer Kaserne.

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13. On 27 January, motor vehicle [] was seen leaving the former Arado installation, 2 km south of Rathenow. From 24 to 31 January, about 100 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia daily fell in in the installation.

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